

Thank you for your comment, Richard Orr.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is SolarM60148.

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Solar Energy Development PEIS
Comment ID: SolarM60148

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Attachment:

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Several of the areas in Nevada identified on the initial potential siting maps are in active Grazing allotments. Several of those allotments constitute the winter grazing areas for the effected permittees. Any land areas taken out of access by the permitted livestock due to solar collector construction could potentially effect far more than just the AUM's lost to surface occupation of the solar site. If a significant loss of winter AUM's occurs, it could make the entire operation insolvent due to winter versus summer use areas being out of balance for feed with the only (impractical) alternative being the overly costly process of buying feed to offset the loss of winter forage. It is important that no permits are negatively effected in this manner. In a county as small and economically depressed as Lincoln County, Nevada losing even one business greatly effects the entire county population base and economic solvency.

In addition, several of the valley's in Nevada contain coarse silty and silty textured soils which are very susceptible to wind erosion when they receive even a low level of traffic or disturbance. The erosion alone will significantly effect plant growth and production and could also settle on solar collection equipment requiring regular cleaning for maximum efficiency, which leads to more traffic, which leads to an increased erosion level and further need for cleaning.